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LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1954.

Medical Officer of Health	M. C. O'Connor, M.B., D.P.H.
Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector	G.K.Foster, M.S.I.A., A.I.W.E.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	B.Barker, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
Housing and Planning Assistant	W.H.Green until February 15th, 1954.
	S. Brierley.
Housing Manager	C.H.Carey.
Housing Inspector and Sanitary Assistant	M. M. Anderson.

Committees concerned with matter of Public Health.

Public Health and Housing Committee
Planning Committee
Road Safety Committee

LIBRARY

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the Long Ashton Rural District Council,

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to report on the Health and the Social and Sanitary Condition of the District during the past year. The information therein is, as far as possible, in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as laid down in Circular 42/51 dated 10th December, 1951.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area	45,434 acres.
Population, as assessed by the Registrar General for mid 1954	23,280 (1951 Census 22,984)
No. of Inhabited Houses	7,315 (" " 6,342)
Rateable value. May 1st, 1954.	£172,388
Sum represented by a one penny rate for year 1954/55	£688

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	166	146	312	
Illegitimate	7	9	16	
Total	173	155	328	14.1 per 1000 popn.

Still Births.

Legitimate	4	1	5	20.9 per 1000
Illegitimate	1	1	2	still & live
Total	5	2	7	births.

Deaths Infants under 1 year	3	5	8	all legitimate
Deaths Infants under 4 weeks	2	3	5	all legitimate

VITAL STATISTICS (continued)

Of the 328 births credited to the District, 102, (32%) took place within the District, 11 of these in a Nursing Home. The figure for 1953 was 41%.

It is interesting to note that only one birth took place in the Parish of Long Ashton, whereas 19 occurred in Easton-in-Gordano and 18 in Yatton. I understand that admission to Hospital for delivery is much easier to arrange than formerly. It would seem that hospital births are more related to proximity to Bristol than to housing or other local conditions.

Deaths. All Causes. Registrar General's Figures.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Tuberculosis Respy.	3	1	Influenza	0	1
Syphilitic Disease	0	1	Pneumonia	3	4
Other Infective Dis.	2	0	Bronchitis	5	3
Cancer, Stomach	1	3	Other Respiratory Disease	1	1
Lung, bronchus	6	1	Ulcer Stomach & Duodenum	3	0
Breast	0	6	Gastro-enteritis	0	3
Uterus	0	1	Nephritis	1	1
Others	9	5	Prostate Dis. benign	2	0
Diabetes	0	1	Pregnancy	0	1
Vascular Dis. C.N.S.	22	23	Congenital Malformations	0	4
Coronary Disease	16	10	Other diseases	5	6
Hypertension & Heart	5	4	Motor accidents	1	0
Other Heart	25	25	Other accidents	2	3
Other Circulatory Dis.	2	8	Suicide	3	2

Totals Male:- 117; Female:- 118; Total:- 235. 10.1 per 1000

The death under 'Pregnancy' occurred more than 12 months after delivery.

This District is credited with the deaths of persons in Mental Homes, viz. Barrow Gurney Hospital and Cambridge House, as well as those in Old People's Homes. Those from Cambridge House and Barrow Hospital number 11.

The Lung cancer cases were as follows:-

Sex.	Age.	Occupation.	Parish.	Comment.
F	68	Nurse	Barrow Gurney	From Clifton
M	77	Gardener	Abbots Leigh	Probably not primary Lung.
M	74	Baker	Abbots Leigh	
M	68	Electricity Co. Caretaker	North Weston	
M	65	Dock Labourer	North Weston	
M	51	French Polisher	Barrow Gurney	Hospital Patient from Bristol.
M	52	Bricklayer	Yatton	

Of the 5 infant deaths under 4 weeks of age, only one occurred at home, a premature birth.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease	Notifications.	Removals to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	20	9	0
Whooping Cough	114	0	0
Measles	1	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	1	0
Acute Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	32	2	1
Dysentery	5	0	0
Food Poisoning	1	1	0
Erysipelas	4	0	0

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following figures are supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health

Number of children who completed a full course of injections for primary immunisations.

Age	under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
to 30.6.54	108	79	13	8	7	41	-	256
to 31.12.54	35	29	14	2	3	25	2	110
Totals 1954	143	108	27	10	10	66	2	366
Reinforcing injections								
to 30.6.54						171		171
to 31.12.54						137		137
Totals 1954						308		308

Number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of Immunisation (whether primary or booster) within the last five years (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1950).

Age at 31.12.54 i.e. born in	under 1 1954	1 1953	2 1952	3 1951	4 1950	5- 9 1949-'45	10-14 1944-'40	Total under 15
	7	151	251	210	235	1328	255	2437

VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or revaccinated) in the year.

Age groups	under 1		1		2-4		5-14		15 & over		Totals	
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
	180	-	7	1	7	2	11	6	18	64	223	73

These figures shew continued efforts on the part of the local Medical Practitioners and District Nurses and are an improvement on 1953.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

Respiratory	21
Other	1

It will have been noted that there were four deaths from Tuberculosis; three of these belonged to the District and had been previously notified, and of these one was an inmate of Cambridge House.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries are provided at Clevedon, the Central Clinic at Bristol and at Ham Green Hospital. The tuberculosis service is under the supervision of the County. Any signs of overcrowding where cases are involved is always given marked rehousing priority.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board Mass Radiography Unit paid a visit to Yatton during the year. 841 people attended for examination and 54 of these were recalled for larger films. Of these 54, 12 proved normal, 31 gave significant conditions, while 11 were to be kept under observation.

The following was the distribution of the Tuberculosis cases found:-

Active	Under 15 yrs. of age	1
	Between 25 and 34	2
Inactive	Between 25 and 34	4
	" 35 and 44	2
	" 45 and 59	6
	60 and over	1

Laboratory facilities for bacteriological purposes are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, and at Canynge Hall, Bristol. The Bristol facilities are most often used, owing to their proximity and we have been glad to have the opportunity to talk over our problems there with the experts, to whom we are very grateful. Analytical work is done at the County Laboratory, County Hall, Taunton.

Infectious diseases are treated at Ham Green Hospital.

Ambulance services for the district are under County supervision.

The District is well served by its District Nurses, who are under County supervision, but often act as home helps, welfare officers, serve the Clinics and are a very great source of information and help, besides performing their usual home-nursing functions.

The School medical service is run by the County.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

Although no action was necessary under this Section of the Act, we have on several occasions had the assistance of the County Welfare Department. Accommodation has to be provided by the County for persons, who, by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them. Old people living alone are often found and County advice and assistance is always willingly given. These old folk are very loth to leave their belongings and surroundings.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply has generally been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Where the supply is not piped, i.e. from wells, springs or streams it is a constant source of anxiety, and the taking of samples usually means condemnation. These also have occasionally dried up.

General arrangements have been made for the Bristol Waterworks Company to haul water at the request of persons suffering from shortage. This is not a free service but it is intended to make water hauling facilities available in the district when required.

WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Piped supplies - results of samples taken for analysis:-

Bacteriological	Satisfactory	9
	Unsatisfactory	0
Chemical	Satisfactory	8
	Unsatisfactory	0

No waters have been found to have Plumbo-solvent action.

Water supplies from public Mains:-

Direct to Houses	6402	Dwelling Houses;	Population	21,126
By Standpipes	223	" "	"	637

Particulars of the number of Dwelling Houses and population supplies from Water mains in Parishes are given in the following table.

Particulars of the number of Dwelling Houses and Population supplied by Water Mains:-

Parish	Area in Acres	Approx. Population at 31.12.54.	No. of Houses in Parish.	No. of Houses supplied direct from Mains	No. of Houses supplied from Standpipes	No. of Population supplied direct from Mains	No. of Population supplied from Standpipes
Abbots Leigh	2260	697	201	192	-	666	-
Backwell	2929	2223	684	657	2	2135	7
Barrow Gurney	2064	362	99	63	8	230	29
Brockley	1148	380	133	124	3	355	8
Clapton-in-Gordano	1355	265	80	33	2	123	8
Cleeve	1013	561	169	159	4	528	13
Dundry	2598	757	228	64	20	212	66
Easton-in-Gordano	1864	3046	961	947	6	3001	22
Flax Bourton	630	253	72	57	6	200	21
Kenn	830	232	67	53	4	184	14
Kingston Seymour	2652	213	66	31	10	100	32
Long Ashton	4018	3358	920	905	9	3303	33
Nailsea	2856	2566	802	763	12	2442	38
North Weston	1053	1545	531	354	76	1030	221
Portbury	2845	408	125	87	6	265	18
Tickenham	1629	794	237	221	5	740	17
Walton-in-Gordano	908	251	97	34	-	88	-
Weston-in-Gordano	708	195	60	42	12	136	42
Winford	3340	1094	319	216	36	740	123
Wraxall	4125	1907	561	511	2	1737	7
Yatton	4589	2951	906	899	-	2930	-
Total	45434	24058	7318	6402	223	21145	719

WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Piped supply was substituted for Well water in 79 cases and for other sources in 177 cases.

The following Extensions or Improvements in piped water supply were ~~started~~ COMPLETED during the year.

Parish.	Scheme.	Cost.
Dundry	Provision of mains supply to Dundry by Bristol Waterworks Co. under guarantee.	Final cost not available, but approx. £34,500.
Clapton-in-Gordano.	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Co's mains to village under guarantee.	£6,636. Council's guarantee £829 per annum, less revenue.
North Weston.	Provision of mains supply to Redcliffe Bay area by B.W. Co. under joint guarantee with Portishead.	£19,897. R.D.C. guarantee £1,839 per annum, less revenue.
Barrow Gurney.	Provision of mains supply by B.W. Co. to Barrow Hill and Bridgwater Road area, under guarantee.	Council's guarantee £260 per annum, less revenue.

WATER SUPPLY from WELLS

3 of the 4 samples taken were unsatisfactory.

50 wells were closed.

305 houses relied on Well supplies at the end of the year.

FUTURE PROPOSALS for PIPED WATER Supply.

Priority Group.	Parish	Scheme.	Approximate Cost.
1	Kingston Seymour.	Further extensions of Bristol Waterworks Co's mains to outlying areas of parish, under guarantee.	£6,730
1	Kenn	Provision of mains supply to Kenn Pier area, under guarantee; in conjunction with Clevedon U.D.C.	£1,555 for R.D.C.
1	Winford	Provision of mains water supply to Ridgehill and Strode areas, under guarantee.	£19,934
1	Brockley	Extension of main supply along Weston-super-Mare Road.	£2,800
1	Walton-in-Gordano.	Provision of mains supply by Bristol Waterworks Co. to Walton Bay and Walton Down area, under guarantee.	Not yet available.
2	Nailsea	Extension of mains from West End to The Grove, under guarantee.	£2,976

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Council maintain Sewage Disposal Works at the following sites:-

Backwell	for	Backwell, Farleigh, West Town and Brockley Camp.
North Weston	"	the Village, excluding Redcliffe Bay.
Tyntesfield	"	the Estate Hutments.
Yatton	"	Yatton and Cleeve.

Easton-in-Gordano has a sewerage system discharging into the Avon river, serving Pill.
Long Ashton has a sewerage system discharging into the Avon via Bristol.

Cambridge House (Flax Bourton) has a small works for the Institution and the Police houses and headquarters.
Barrow Gurney Hospital
Winford Hospital both have their own works.

The following have small works for the Council Housing estates in the Parish:-

Dundry	Easton-in-Gordano	Lulsgate
Wraxall	Tickenham	Nailsea

There have been no extensions during the year though preliminary work, on paper and inquiry, has been done.

FUTURE PROPOSALS.

Parish.	Scheme.	Approximate Cost.
NAILSEA	Sewerage and sewage disposal for major part of parish. Whole scheme approved in general principle by Ministry, but the sewers and that part of the disposal works necessary for the new housing estate are allowed as first instalment.	£122,553
FLAX BOURTON	Sewerage and sewage disposal for village. Whole scheme approved in general principle by Ministry but the sewers necessary for the new housing estate and disposal works are allowed as the first instalment.	£10,050
WINFORD	Sewerage and sewage disposal for Winford Village and Long Cross area of Felton. Public Inquiry postponed pending submission of a joint scheme with Clutton R.D.C. for siting of disposal works in Clutton as Bristol Waterworks Co. are interested in purity of Winford Brook. Part of cost to be borne by Water Company.	£36,900
EASTON-IN-GORDANO	New main and outfall sewers to replace obsolete and flat portions of Pill Sewers. Whole scheme approved by Ministry and tender accepted.	£15,742
PORTBURY and EASTON-IN-GORDANO.	Sewerage and sewage disposal to sea outfall to Portbury village and the Easton-in-Gordano portion of that parish. Scheme submitted to Ministry.	£34,200

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (continued)

Future Proposals (continued)

Parish.	Scheme.	Approximate Cost.
CLAPTON-IN-GORDANO	Sewerage and sewage disposal to parts of village, as well as the Council houses and those recently acquired for conversion. Scheme in course of preparation.	£9,000
DUNDRY and LONG ASHTON	Sewerage and sewage disposal to Dundry Lane and Bridgwater Road areas. Scheme deferred by County Council and not yet submitted to Ministry.	£8,500

These schemes have acquired priority Group I. The Council has in view in all some 25 schemes, and priorities are liable to alteration with local development. The total estimated cost of those schemes was, in 1954, estimated at £296,663.

The increased availability of piped water supply and the installation of baths and water-closets makes the cesspit systems increasingly unsatisfactory.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in district on December 31st, 1954:-

(1) W.C.s .....8742 (2) Chemical Closets..700
(3) Pail Closets..1054 (4) Other 20

Number of conversions to water carriage system during year..18

Following on the increased number of houses and the spread of piped water supply, the Cesspit emptying service is hard pressed and there is a constant delay of from 2 to 3 weeks in complying with requests.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House Refuse is removed by Direct Labour, using two 7-8 cubic yard and one 10 cubic yard side-loading Ford Thames Refuse collection vehicles. A weekly collection is made in 3 parishes and fortnightly in the remainder, thus covering the whole 21 parishes.

There is a constant demand from the less favoured Parishes for more frequent collection and the Council has decided to purchase a larger vehicle in 1955.

There is a scheme for the collection of trade refuse, but it is little used. Under it a charge is made of sixpence (6d) per bin, the money being collected and receipts given by the refuse collector; and larger quantities may be collected by special arrangement, viz:-

up to 5 cwts....3/6d per load
" "10 cwts....7/- " "
" "15 cwts....10/- " "
" "20 cwts....15/- " "
every additional ton 12/-.

House and Trade Refuse is disposed of in one controlled tip only and none in uncontrolled tips or by incineration.

As further accommodation will be needed in the near future the Council is considering the establishment of other and more centrally situated tips, which would lower costs by shortening the distance transported and facilitate an increased service.

Cesspool emptying is carried out by the local authority, making a charge of 15/- per load (800 gallons) for domestic premises and 17/6 per hour for business premises.

CAMPING SITES.

(a)	No. of camping sites for which licences have been issued		18
(b)	Maximum number allowed per acre		16
(c)	Period of occupation:-	(i) Permanent	Yearly
		(ii) Seasonal	April 1st to October 31st
(d)	Estimated maximum number of campers resident during year		
		(i) Permanent	300
		(ii) Seasonal	2000

It is the Council's policy to restrict siting of Movable Dwellings to the established, and equipped, Caravan Sites and it has constantly to resist applications which would scatter throughout the District groups, unsightly and very difficult to control.

SWIMMING BATHS and POOLS.

There is one privately owned swimming pool at the Ashton Court Country Club, which has a very modern, efficient, chlorination and circulation plant. The rough estimate of the daily average of bathers during the summer has been made at 18. A regular system of examination of the water is made.

HOUSING

	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Houses erected during the year	104	117	221
House in course of erection at 31.12.54.	32	104	136
Gained by conversion of large houses into dwellings or flats	-	5	5
Lost from conversion of two or more into one	-	2	2

Distribution of Houses erected during 1954:-

Parish	By Local Authority Completed.	Under Constrn.	By Private Enterprise Completed.	Under Constrn.
Abbots Leigh	-	-	10	9
Backwell	4	6	18	15
Barrow Gurney	-	-	-	-
Brockley	-	-	2	1
Clapton-in-Gordano	-	-	2	-
Cleeve	-	-	4	5
Dundry	-	-	2	4
Easton-in-Gordano	20	-	5	9
Flax Bourton	-	-	2	2
Kenn	-	-	1	-
Kingston Seymour	-	-	1	-
Long Ashton	40	-	16	16
Nailsea	-	-	7	10
North Weston	4	-	13	8
Portbury	-	-	2	1
Tickenham	-	-	3	9
Walton-in-Gordano	-	-	1	-
Weston-in-Gordano	-	-	-	2
Winford	-	-	4	4
Wraxall	4	2	19	7
Yatton	32	24	5	2
Total	104	32	117	104

HOUSING (continued)

Inclusive of those built during the year -

Total number of Houses in the District	7318
" " " " " " " owned by L.A.	1122

No. of Post-war Houses erected from April 1st, 1945, to 31st December, 1954

By Local Authority	807	(including 56 transferred to Bristol on 1.4.51).
By Private Enterprise	364	(including 75 ditto)

(a)	No. of unfit houses in District but on which no formal action has been taken	200
(b)	No. of houses that have been condemned under the Housing Acts as totally unfit	91
(c)	No. of houses occupied under - (a) 200; (b) 35	
(d)	No. of temporary housing units occupied, viz. Huts, etc.	257

No. of houses found overcrowded 8

Houses required:-

(i) To replace those unfit under (a) 150; (b) 35
(ii) To abate overcrowding 6
(iii) To overcome unsatisfactory conditions, e.g. two families living in same house but not included in (i) or (ii) 212

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at 31.13.54 - 510

Housing Programme.

Sites have been approved and schemes prepared for new Council Housing in the following Parishes:-

Parish	Name of Estate	Number of Houses
Cleeve	Rhodyate	24
Dundry	infilling	16
Easton-in-Gordano	Marine Parade, Pill	34 & 34
Easton-in-Gordano	Rudgleigh Road, Pill	60
Flax Bourton		16
Nailsea	Southfield Road	210
Wraxall	The Grove	8
Yatton	Westerham	2

Allocation for the Year:- Traditional 18
New Tradition 80

At the Council meeting in December it was resolved to proceed with the acquisition of over 20 acres of land at Birdwell, Long Ashton, for the erection of houses urgently needed in this parish.

Observations.

The problem of the unfit (Section 11) house cannot be tackled until there is alternative accommodation to offer tenants. The intermediate labelling of these houses only expedites their dissolution. Where possible owners are encouraged to make improvements.

HOUSING (continued)

GRANTS made under the Housing Act, 1949.

No. of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority:-

	Received		Approved		Rejected		Under Considn.		Withdrawn	
	Aps.	Houses	Aps.	Houses	Aps.	Houses	Aps.	Houses.	Aps.	Houses
31.7.49 to 31.12.53	10	10	8	8	2	2	-	-	-	-
During year	36	38	25	27	5	5	1	1	5	5
Total	46	48	33	35	7	7	1	1	5	5

Average cost per dwelling approved:- £640. 0. 0.
Average Rent fixed:- £66. 0. 0. per annum.

FOOD.

The number and types of business of food premises in the District are:-

Butchery	17
Grocers and Provisions	53
Cafes, Snack Bars, etc.	24
Hotels, Inns, Guest Houses	62
Greengrocery	13
Bakery and Confectionery	14
Fishmongers	3
Fried-fish Shops	3
Cider Manufacturers	3
Mineral Water Manufacturers	1
Wine Bottling	1

MILK.

No. of Registered Distributors	23
No. of Registered Dairy Premises	6
No. of supplementary licences issued to distributors whose dairy is outside the district	13

Milk Sampling.

Only two samples of T.T. milk were samples - and proved satisfactory.

No action was required under Regulation 20 of the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.

ICE CREAM.

No. of premises registered for:-

(a) Manufacture and retail	2
(b) Manufacture only	0
(c) Retail only	59

No. of samples taken:-

	Hot Mix	Cold Mix
Grade 1	11	-
Grade 2	8	1
Grade 3	2	-
Grade 4	2	-

Almost all the ice cream now sold is prepacked and manufactured outside the district.

FOOD (Continued)

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Section 14.

Twelve premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages, etc. 20 inspections were made of registered premises.

No enforcement action was necessary under the Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Act, in respect of food premises generally.

Slaughter-houses and Bacon Factories.

No slaughter-house or abattoir is owned or leased by the Local Authority.

	Licensed	Operating
No. of Private Slaughter-houses	5	4
Bacon Factories	-	-
Slaughter-house where horses are slaughtered for human consumption	-	-

Number of animals slaughtered during the year (July-December inc.).

	Bovines.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Total.
July	80	361	39	41	521
August	79	518	44	45	686
September	74	547	31	89	741
October	91	648	40	131	910
November	116	658	53	220	1047
December	95	324	15	322	756
Total	535	3056	222	848	4661

Approximate weight of meat condemned:-

Cattle		Sheep		Pigs		
T.B.	Other	T.B.	Other	T.B.	Other	
1960	2288	-	243	123	-	lbs.

Incidence of Tuberculosis:-

	Cattle	Pigs
Inspected	540	851
Affected	45	9
Percentage affected	8.3%	1.06%

With the freeing of controls over meat supplies, the Council this year had to consider the question of licensing slaughter-houses, so that there should be adequate facilities, at the same time remembering that "moderate concentration" was the Government's eventual policy. A list of standards required was drawn up, the butchers consulted as a body, and eventually 4 licences were granted to butchers killing for their shops and one to a wholesale butcher. Meat inspection has thrown a heavy extra load on the staff and made necessary the employment of an extra sanitary inspector-meat inspector.

Inspection of Food.

The following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

57 x 3 lbs tins Corned Beef (Metallic contamination - tin)
1 x 12 oz. tin Corned Beef
2 x 1 gallon tins Spanish Apricots
6 lbs Tinned Beans
A quantity of tinned fruit, fish and meat where tins had become 'blown'; in the store of one dealer.

Disposal. These foods were disposed of in the refuse tips.

Condemned meat is stained and is then collected by a recognised firm of fertiliser and animal-food manufacturers for treatment.

FOOD (continued)

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

One case, notified as Food Poisoning, was admitted to Hospital and not confirmed. Five cases of Dysentery were notified, 3 in an Old People's Home, but no pathological organism was found, possibly because samples were collected too late in the attack. Specimen bottles have now been left with the doctors, so that specimens may be collected in the acute stage, to facilitate detection of the cause.

In no case have we been able to identify infecting persons or food.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

Smoke from a factory was a cause of complaint. The management called in expert opinion, through the Federation of British Industries, and, by improved method of firing the furnaces and altering the fuel, the trouble has been very greatly relieved.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954, ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	8	7	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect.7 is enforced by L.A.	77	46	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect.7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	85	53	3	-

2. CASES in which defects were found

Particulars.	No. of Cases Found.	No. of Cases Remedied.	No. of Cases Referred To H.M.Inspr.	No. of Cases Referred By H.M.Inspr.	No. of Cases Prosecuted.
Want of Cleanliness (S.I)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Poor drainage floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	2	-
(c) No sex separation	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against Act.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	1	-	3	-

PART VIII of the ACT

OUTWORK
(Sects.110 and 111)

As far as we know there were only two Outworkers in the District during the year.

CONCLUSION

The general health of the District remains good and there have been no material changes in the character of employment. No new industries have been established. Many workers travel daily to Bristol or Portishead for their work.

The Council would seem to have been shouldered with the responsibility of housing most of those people who rent houses. It would appear that no new houses are being built in the district for letting and landlords are finding the possession of lettable property a financial loss. It is a remarkable change in social conditions and would seem to point to a state where all rented property was owned by the local authority or by employers for their own staff.

The continued health of the populace must depend on continued vigilance on the part of Sanitary authorities and, in this connection, the need for the inspection of all meat slaughtered in the district has added a heavy load on your staff. Most of the meat is seen in a wholesale slaughter house and I cannot but feel that the ultimate solution will be the establishment of one central and controlled abattoir, with a permanent meat inspector.

In tendering this Report for your consideration and information, I must, again, take the opportunity of thanking all the members of the Council for support and understanding.

I feel that you and I are very well served by the Staff. In Mr. Foster, the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, I and the Council are extremely fortunate in having the services of a very able, conscientious and indefatigable worker. This report has called for much assistance from Mr. Barker, whose fund of knowledge is valuable to us all. The ready co-operation of all members of the Staff makes this, and all my work on behalf of the Council a very pleasant and satisfying job.

It would be ungracious not to include a word of thanks to the Clerk, his lieutenant and the Housing Manager. It would be nice to feel that I am as much help to them as they are to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.